

# STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR PATTY JUDGE, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION JUDY A. JEFFREY, DIRECTOR

DATE: June 4, 2008

TO: Community College Presidents

**IACCT** 

Other interested stakeholders

FROM: Judy Jeffrey, Director

SUBJECT: 2008 Legislative action

The 2008 Legislative session was another landmark year. Education was again a key priority and all sectors of education reaped many benefits from this focus on educational issues and funding. In an effort to keep you informed of the resulting changes, we've provided below a brief synopsis of legislative action related to community colleges and some K-12 programming. Please note that four themes are included in this letter: 1) policy issues, 2) funding changes, 3) mandated studies, and 4) additional grant opportunities.

The Department understands that these changes will likely prompt discussions and require adjustments to local policy and procedures. Please know that we want to assist you in this process; therefore, we will provide detailed guidance specific to several issues outlined in this document in the upcoming months. In addition, please feel free to contact our consultants with questions or concerns you may have.

## **Policy Issues**

### **Education Appropriations Policy – HF 2679**

Separate guidance on some of the policy changes included in HF 2679 will be issued. These separate pieces of guidance will address Senior Year Plus implementation.

#### Senior Year Plus Statute

 Establishes a new Code Chapter (IC 261E) that consolidates into one place all statutes related to all programming that provides opportunities for high school students to earn college credit. This includes 1) Advanced Placement courses, 2) Concurrent enrollment (commonly called dual-credit) courses, 3) Post-secondary Enrollment Options Act courses, 4) Career and Regional Academy courses, and 5) ICN and Iowa Learning Online courses.

- Establishes new post-secondary course audit committees charged with ensuring that courses offered under this chapter are of college-level difficulty and meeting the expectations of this chapter.
- Creates a new, expanded supplemental weighting for school districts that host courses shared between districts.
- Changes weighting for concurrent enrollment classes to 0.70 for career and technical courses and 0.46 for all other courses.
- Establishes criteria for student, teacher, and institution participation in programming offered under this chapter. This includes a requirement that the student be proficient in reading, math and science or that the student meets other alternate, but equivalent criteria established locally.
- Provides funding that will cover half the cost of all Advanced Placement Exams taken statewide beginning in 2008-09.
- Requires the Department, in collaboration with the community colleges, to place in rule concise definitions of the data elements listed in the statute.
- If the programming is provided on school district or neutral sites, a DCI background check of the instructors must be completed by the institution.

#### Additional policy changes in HF 2679

- Convenes a Legislative Council interim committee to study post-secondary rigor.
- Requires the Department, in collaboration with the community college system, to facilitate a review of community college accreditation and accountability provisions.
- Creates an ad hoc accreditation quality faculty plan protocol committee to advise the department in the development of protocols related to the quality faculty planning process to be used by the accreditation teams during site visits. All community college faculty members will be included in this process by July 1, 2011.

#### Health and Human Services Appropriations Policy Issues – SF 2425

#### **Autism Council**

Establishes a statewide Autism Council that will advise the state on future efforts related to services to autistic citizens.

<u>Healthy Kids Act of 2008 – FYI only for Community Colleges, bill does not directly impact them.</u>

#### Additional guidance on the Healthy Kids Act of 2008 is forthcoming.

This statute includes the following items:

- This statute does not go into effect until July 1, 2009.
- The requirement that school districts and accredited nonpublic schools ensure that every K-5 student has 30 minutes a day of physical activity and every 6-12 student has 120 minutes per week of physical activity. Physical activity will be defined in Department rules and can be included in physical education classes but can be provided in other ways as well.
- Requires the Department to establish nutritional guidelines for all foods sold on school grounds during the school day other than food provided under the federal school lunch program. This applies to school districts and accredited nonpublic schools.
- Requires all district and accredited nonpublic school students to take CPR prior to graduation. Exempts students unable to physically manage the course.
- Requires AEAs to contract with a licensed dietician to support students with specific nutritional needs and regional food and nutrition staff members.

#### Iowa Core Curriculum - SF 2216

### Additional guidance is forthcoming.

#### <u>Iowa Core Curriculum provisions</u>

- Converts what was previously known as the Model Core Curriculum into the mandated lowa Core Curriculum. This core curriculum is K-12 in the areas of literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, financial literacy, health literacy, technology literacy, civic literacy, and employability skills.
- Requires school districts and accredited nonpublic schools to fully implement the Iowa Core Curriculum by July 1, 2012 for grades 9-12 and by July 1, 2014 for grades K-8. Districts and accredited nonpublic schools must have an implementation plan in place by July 1, 2010 for grades 9-12 and by July 1, 2012 for grades K-8.
- Prohibits the State Board of Education or the Department from the mandating of specific textbooks, textbook series, or instructional strategies.
- Requires the Department, in collaboration with the AEAs, to make available technical assistance and implementation strategies that districts and accredited nonpublic schools shall use as they work to implement the lowa Core Curriculum. This guidance includes the development of model formative and end-of-course assessments that MAY be used by districts and accredited nonpublic schools.

- Requires the DE to convene a working group related to the development of model assessments to support the core curriculum.
- Districts must ensure that any course made available to students through any sharing agreement with a community college meets the expectations contained in the Iowa Core Curriculum. This includes ensuring that any course that has the capacity to generate college credit shall be equivalent to college-level work.
- Note: The SYP study referenced in the statute was not funded, so it will not occur this fiscal year.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Planning provisions

 Mandates that every student, prior to graduation, will complete all components of the state-designated career information and decisionmaking system, which is currently the CHOICES program. This should be incorporated into students' four year high school plans. Districts currently using a different product must either switch to CHOICES or make CHOICES available along with the other product.

#### Changes to membership on the College Student Aid Commission – HF 2103

Changes the membership on the CSAC to include more public members.

#### Postsecondary publication of textbook ISBN numbers – HF 2197

Recommends that postsecondary institutions publish the ISBN numbers for all textbooks at least 14 days prior to the start of each semester.

#### Statewide smoking ban – HF 2212

Additional guidance can be found at <a href="www.lowaSmokefreeAir.gov">www.lowaSmokefreeAir.gov</a> The bill places into statute the following mandates:

- 1. Smoking now is prohibited in all areas of school buildings, including nonpublic schools, as well as all school grounds, parking lots, athletic fields, including inside any vehicle located on school grounds or school parking lots. No longer can a school designate a smoking area.
- 2. Smoking is prohibited inside all publicly owned vehicles, even if parked in a private drive.
- 3. Smoking is prohibited inside a private vehicle that is parked in a school parking lot.

The Iowa Department of Public Health (DPH) is in charge of writing administrative rules for the enforcement of this new law. DPH states that it will also provide sample "no smoking" signs that schools may download for free at the following web site: <a href="http://www.idph.state.ia.us/tobacco/smokefree.asp">http://www.idph.state.ia.us/tobacco/smokefree.asp</a>.

# Changes to licensing of plumbers, electricians, and alarm installers – <u>HF 2390, HF 2410, HF 2411, and HF 2547.</u>

These bills include changes to licensing of these workers. Subsequent changes to the programming provided by community colleges may be necessary to ensure proper licensing of these individuals.

#### **Targeted Industries Development – HF 2450**

Requires Iowa Workforce Development to collaborate with the community college system on several types of targeted industries training.

# Changes to School Board member terms and special election laws – <u>HF</u> 2620

Changes the length of term of board members in school districts, AEAs, and community colleges from three to four years, moves school board elections to every other year, and limits the number of special elections that can be held in a calendar year to four. The lowa Secretary of State has several helpful documents, including an election calendar on its web site at: <a href="http://www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/electioninfo/SchoolElections.html">http://www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/electioninfo/SchoolElections.html</a>

#### **SILO – HF 2663**

Institutes a statewide one cent sales tax for school infrastructure. Additional guidance is forthcoming from the Department related to the certificate of need process.

#### Changes to student lending expectations – HF 2690

Makes changes to tighten expectations related to student lending practices. Additional guidance will be provided by the College Student Aid Commission.

#### State Council on Homelessness – SF 2161

Creates a statewide Council on Homelessness to advocate for issues related to the homeless.

#### Educational Assistance to children of deceased veterans – SF 2289

Provides additional tuition assistance to any student of a deceased veteran under the age of 31.

# Extension of complaint filing window for Civil Rights Commission complaints – <u>SF 2292</u>

Extends the filing window for complaints to the Civil Rights Commission from 180 to 300 days.

# Notification of Breach of Security and Unintended Personal Information Disclosure – SF 2308

All entities that keep electronic records of students', employees', and other persons' names along with a unique identification number (SSN, driver's license number, etc., that is not encrypted) must notify such persons of any breach of that information unless requested not to do so by law enforcement. This is a new law that affects all public and private businesses as well as all levels of state government. As more guidance is prepared by the Department of Public Safety and others, the DE will pass it along to schools, school districts, and community colleges.

#### **IPERS – SF 2424**

Incremental increases to IPERS contributions.

## **Funding**

- Empowerment funding \$22,302,006 \$1,479,588 less than FY08
- Empowerment Early Childhood funding \$10,000,000 same as FY08
- Community College funding \$183,062,414 \$9,100,000 over FY08
- Community College funds for expenses related to deaf interpreters -\$200,000 to Iowa Western CC only – same as FY08
- Community College funds for ADA compliance \$2,000,000 same as FY08
- Agricultural Learning Center at EICC \$80,000 new
- Vocational Education salaries \$576,613 same as FY08
- Vocational Education Programming \$2,936,904 same as FY08
- Educational Excellence program \$55,469,053 same as FY08
- Core Curriculum and Career Information and Decision-making System new - \$2,192,351
- Early Intervention/Class Size \$29,250,000 same as FY08
- Department of Education administration \$8,720,341 \$400,000 above FY08 (\$400,000 of separate line-item for data warehouse rolled into general adm.)
- School Foundation Aid \$2,226,800,000 (est.) \$81,200,000 above FY08
- Senior Year Plus \$1,900,000 new

- \$500,000 to cover half of every AP exam taken during 08-09
- o \$500,000 for transfer articulation web site
- \$500,000 for data warehousing including transcript repository
- \$400,000 for expansion of on-line learning opportunities
- Vocational Agriculture Youth Organization \$50,000 same as FY08
- Statewide Education Data Warehouse \$1,000,000 same as FY08
- Educator Quality \$248,943,894 \$75,000,000 above FY08
- Community College Salary enhancements \$1,500,000 over FY08
- STEM initiative new \$4,000,000 to the University of Northern Iowa
- Workforce Training and Economic Development Fund increased to \$11,500,000. (\$7,000,000 from the GIVF, \$2,500,000 from the IPF and \$2,000,000 from RIIF).
- Increase to \$4,000,000 the All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship, which includes a \$2500 grant for first-year community college students.

### **Department of Education Statewide Studies**

 Ad Hoc Community College Quality Faculty Plan Protocol Committee – <u>HF</u> 2679

Requires the Department to reconvene a work group to develop protocols related to statute/rule pertaining to Quality Faculty Plans for community college staff. There must be a process in place for all community college staff by July 1, 2011.

 Community College accreditation and accountability review committee – HF 2679

Requires the Department to convene a committee to address the following issues:

- > measures to ensure consistency in program quality statewide.
- adequate oversight of community college programming by the state board of education,
- consistency in definitions for information and data requirements (in consultation with the community college management information system standing committee),
- barriers to providing quality programming,
- methods to improve compensation of community college faculty, and
- system performance measures that adequately respond to identified needs and concerns.

A progress report is due to the legislature by January 15, 2009 with a final report due to the legislature by January 15, 2010.

#### 3. LACTS study of transferability and articulation

Requires the existing LACTS committee to study articulation and transferability issues, measures and agreements. The committee must submit a progress report to the General Assembly by January 15, 2009. The progress shall include a history of articulation between the community colleges and Regent institutions, the number of statewide and institution-to-institution articulation agreements in place currently, and any related recommendations.

#### 4. Core Curriculum study - SF 2216

Requires the department to conduct a study of the measures necessary for the successful adoption of the mandated core curriculum by school districts and accredited nonpublic schools. The study will also address the possible expansion of the core curriculum to include content areas not currently incorporated into the core curriculum including, but not limited to, fine arts, applied arts, humanities, and world languages. A report to the legislature is due by November 14, 2008.

5. State K-12 Research and Development School study – <u>SF 2307</u>

In collaboration with UNI, requires the Department to do an additional year of study to examine governance and finance issues related to the development of a state K-12 R & D school. A report to the legislature is due January 15, 2009.

## **New Grant Opportunities**

1. Pilot Program – Tuition Assistance for Health Care workers serving individuals who work with individuals with disabilities.

Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with the department of human services and the community colleges, shall establish a statewide pilot program to provide grants to community colleges for the purpose of awarding tuition assistance to individuals pursuing a course of study leading to a degree applicable to the health care workforce and employment by health care facilities that provide services to adults with mental illness or mental retardation

RFP available mid-summer.

For additional information, please visit the Department's Legislative Update page at <a href="https://www.edinfo.state.ia.us/web/legisupdate.asp">https://www.edinfo.state.ia.us/web/legisupdate.asp</a> or contact the Department's Legislative Liaison Jeff Berger at 515-281-3399 or <a href="mailto:jeff.berger@iowa.gov">jeff.berger@iowa.gov</a>.